

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 01597 202208Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /085 W
-----111707 211153Z /13

R 200838Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1268
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
ZEN RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW (BY POUCH)
AMEMBASSY MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI 8
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
/USMISSION USNATO 1081
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, HU, UR, EEC, CH
SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN PRESS JOINS ATTACK ON PRC
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REF: (A) MOSCOW 7408 (B) BUDAPEST 4490 (NOTAL)

1. HUNGARY IS FULLY ON BOARD FOR MOSCOW'S CURRENT PRESS
CAMPAIGN AGAINST PRC. IN DEFINITIVE ARTICLE FERENC
VARNAI, FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR OF PARTY PAPER NEPSZABADSAG,
GIVES CURRENT HUNGARIAN VIEW ON CHINA WHICH AMOUNTS TO

MOST THOROUGHGOING CRITICISM OF CHINA WE HAVE SEEN
HERE SINCE DEATH OF MAO. BASIC ACCUSATION AGAINST
CHINA IS ANTI-SOVIETISM.

2. VARNAI WROTE APRIL 12 THAT PRIME GOAL OF
CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY IS ANTI-SOVIETISM. HE DECRIES CHINESE
INSISTENCE ON INEVITABILITY OF WAR. LIKE PRAVDA, HE
HITS TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PEKING AND EC AS IN EFFECT
A POLITICAL AGREEMENT WITH NATO. ALSO LIKE SOVIET PRESS,
HE NOTES CHINESE ARE PURSUING CLOSER TIES WITH WEST TO GET
THEM TO ASSIST IN MODERNIZATION OF CHINESE ARMY. HE SAYS THAT
PRC SPEAKS OF COMMUNIST PARTIES WHOSE EXISTENCE IT USED
TO BE RELUCTANT TO RECOGNIZE WITH APPRECIATION. ITS SOLE
AIM IS TO ATTEMPT TO TURN THESE PARTIES AGAINST FRATERNAL
PARTIES OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. TELLINGLY, VARNAI ACCUSES
CHINESE OF SOWING "SPLITISM" BY TRYING TO TURN THE
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. HE SAYS
CHINESE ARE ATTEMPTING TO CREATE IMPRESSION THAT SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES ARE VICTIMS OF SOVIET UNION AND ARE BEING LED
ABOUT ON STRINGS BY SOVIETS. THIS INTERPRETATION, VARNAI
DECLARES, IS NOT ONLY CONTRARY TO TRUTH BUT HURTS HUNGARY'S
NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS. HUNGARY IS READY TO COOPERATE
WITH EVERY COUNTRY INCLUDING CHINA. HOWEVER, HUNGARY HAS
A RIGHT TO CHOSE ITS OWN FRIENDS.

3. COMMENT: THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY REASON IN RECENT
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PAST TO THINK THAT HUNGARIANS WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO
CHINESE ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE BILATERAL POLITICAL RELATIONS
IN A SIGNIFICANT WAY WITH EASTERN EUROPE WITHOUT SIMUL-
TANEOUSLY DOING SO WITH SOVIET UNION. (SEE REF B) NOW,
HUNGARY HAS JOINED IN SOVIET-CHINESE POLEMICS, REFLECTING
SOVIET POSITIONS. AT SAME TIME, IT SEEMS FROM VARNAI'S
REMARKS ABOUT IMPRESSION CHINESE ARE TRYING TO CREATE
THAT HUNGARY IS A VICTIM AND PUPPET OF SOVIETS THAT
CHINESE, EITHER THROUGH THEIR PROPAGANDA OR BY HEAVY-
HANDED BILATERAL INITIATIVES, MAY HAVE DIRECTLY OFFENDED
HUNGARIANS AS WELL.
WILGIS

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, ALLEGATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BUDAPE01597
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D780170-1114
Format: TEL
From: BUDAPEST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780437/aaaabepq.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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